

Office of the Governor State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, former Missouri State Senator Emory Melton was born in Barry County, Missouri, in 1923 and was a life-long resident of the county. After graduating from Vernon High School, he worked his way through college and law school at Monett Junior College, Southwest Missouri State University, and then the University of Missouri School of Law, where he graduated in December 1944. After law school, he entered the U.S. Army and served with a criminal investigation unit in Japan before he was discharged in 1946; and

WHEREAS, after his discharge, Emory Melton returned to Barry County, where he married Jean Sanders Melton and had two sons, Stanley Melton and the late Russell Melton. Together with Jean, Emory Melton began two businesses, Litho Printers and the Barry County Advertiser, and he also was an owner of the Cassville Republican newspaper and of Barry County Abstract Co.; and

WHEREAS, Emory Melton practiced law in Barry County throughout his career and served as Barry County Prosecuting Attorney from 1947 to 1951; and

WHEREAS, in November 1972, Emory Melton was elected to the first of six four-year terms he would serve in the Missouri Senate representing the 29th District. Earning the informal title of "the conservative conscience of the Senate" during his 24 years in that legislative body, Sen. Melton made it a point to read all bills being considered by the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Emory Melton served for 20 years on the Missouri Tourism Commission and led the effort in the 1990s to build an inn and conference center at Roaring River State Park, south of Cassville; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the Senate, Emory Melton continued to practice law in Barry County, and was also well-known as a historian and as a great supporter of efforts to preserve the region's historical and natural resources. In 2013, he participated in the dedication of a statue at Roaring River to honor the Civilian Conservation Corps workers who helped build that and other Missouri State Parks; and

WHEREAS, after 61 years of marriage, Emory Melton's wife, Jean, passed away in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Emory Melton passed away on December 26, 2015.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the death of

SENATOR EMORY MELTON

and for his service for the State of Missouri, do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings in Barry County, Missouri, on December 29, 2015, from sunrise to sunset.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal ri, in the City of Jefferson, this 28th day of December, 2015.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon

Governor

Attest:

Secretary of State